(b) whether the Central Government have sought any report from the Punjab Government in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) Census 2001 figures reveal that the child sex ratio for the age group of 0-6 years in the State of Punjab is 798 against the National figure of 927.

(b) and (c) As per the provisions of the Pre-conception and Pre-natal Diagnostic Techniques (Prohibition of Sex Selection) Act 1994, all clinics/ units having diagnostic facilities capable of determining the sex of the foetus are required to be registered under the Act and determination and communication of the sex of the foetus is prohibited Quarterly reports giving number of units registered, number of court cases filed for violations of the Act etc. are received from each State and Union Territory. As per the latest report received as on 31st October 2005 from the State of Punjab, 1242 clinics/units have been registered so far and 61 cases are filed, in various courts for violations of the provisions of the Act.

Failure of National Rural Health Mission

395. SHRI B.J. PANDA:
MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR;

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Rural Health Mission has failed to achieve its target of selecting and training the social health activities;

(b) if so, what is the target for 2005-06 and whether it is moving at a slow pace especially in the backward and poverty stricken States; and

(c) if so, what is the action plan of Government to speed up implementation of this project in the tribal-dominated, cash strapped Orissa State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Under the National Rural Health Mission, 2.5 lakh trained female Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHA) have to be selected in a phased

manner over four years in 10 States comprising eight EAG States, Jammu and Kashmir and Assam. Out of this, 40 per cent of the total *i.e.* one lakh ASHAs are to be selected in year 2005-06.

(c) ASHAs are not to be paid any salary or honorarium. They are entitled for performance linked compensation from different Centrally sponsored programmes. The Central Government is meeting the expenditure of selection, training and drug kits. The States therefore should not have any difficulty in implementing the scheme.

New Medical Colleges in Orissa

396. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to set up new medical colleges in Orissa, one at Bolangir and the other at Rourkela;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the present status of the project and its source of funding; and

(d) the details of the help both financial and physical, Government propose to render to this backward region which is very much deficient in medical infrastructure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) Central Government have been permitting establishment of new medical colleges under the provisions of Indian Medical Council Act and the Regulations made thereunder. Any person fulfilling the qualifying criteria prescribed in the Regulations of Medical Council of India can apply to the Central Government for permission for establishment of new medical colleges. No proposal has been received from Orissa for establishment of medical colleges at Bolangir and Rourkela under the above provisions. Under Pradhan Mantry Swasthya Surksha Yojana (PMSSY), AIIMS like institution is proposed to be set up in Bhubaneswar, Orissa. With an outlay of Rs. 280.00 crores approximately. This institute apart from providing